



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : F

: Hidehiko SHOJI et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No.

: 10/563,813

(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/009248)

.A. Filed June 23, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

THE DESIGNATION OF DRIVING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification and the International Search Report that issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/009248, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report was enclosed with the papers when entering the U.S. National Stage on January 6, 2006. The Examiner is requested to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during the international examination with respect to the documents cited therein. The following is a list of the documents cited in the above-noted documents:

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Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-305319, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicants note that this document is cited on page 5 of the specification of the above-noted application;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 2002-156941, together with an English language Abstract of the same and patent family members U.S. Patent No. 6,559,603 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0047575. Applicants note that the Japanese document is cited on page 15 of the specification of the above-noted application;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 2001-51648, together with a partial English language translation and Abstract of the same;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-222030, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. SHO 63-70291, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,517,207;

International Patent Publication No. WO 99/53470, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,400,344;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 2000-206919, together with an English language Abstract of the same; and

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 2000-242225, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

Further, Applicants call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Patent No. 3080064, together with an English language Abstract of patent family member Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-316572;

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Japanese Patent No. 2946921, together with an English language Abstract of patent family member Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI 5-249916;

- U.S. Patent No. 6,633,285;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,900,781;
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0169214;
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0070577;
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0125095; and
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0125096.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents and the U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached hereto and all of the above-noted documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus, no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Hidehiko SHOJI et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein Reg. No. 29,027

April 6, 2006 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191 Steven Wegman Reg. No. 31,438

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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.